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POLAND'S FOREIGN TRADE IN 1948

C. Kakhovskave

Poland's foreign trade turnover for 10 months of 1948 compares with the corresponding period of 1947 as follows (in 1,000 dollars):

	<u>1947</u>	1948
Total	422,730	820,773
Emport	2,2,991	417,635
Export	189,739	403,138
Balance	-43,252	-14,497

Poland's commodity turnover in the past year was double that of 1947. This increase in the volume of Poland's foreign trade came about mainly as a result of the expansion of Poland's economic and commercial ties with the Soviet Union and the peoples' democracies whose share in Poland's foreign trade increased from 38 percent in 1947 to 46 percent in 1948 (for 10 months).

At present, Poland has agreements for economic collaboration with all the peoples' democracies except Albania.

In comparison with the corresponding period in 1947 (8 months), the structure of Poland's foreign trade for 1948 is as follows (including UNRRA capplies):

(In thousands of tons)

Imports	1947	1948
Grains	149.3	´ 310.0
Beans, peas	3.4	
Wheat flour	77.0	
Tobanco and istacco products	3.3	2.6
Meat and meat products	31.6	0.3
Butter, lard, animal fat	10.2	1.3
Wheat flour Tobacco and network products Next and meat products	3.4 77.0 3.3 31.6	2.

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		(In thousands	
Imports		1947	1948
Horses (head)		45,499	5,698
Cattle (head)		14,610	1,172
Kaolin, clay	A	. 11 . 0	45.9
Iron ore	•	632.0	970.6
Fertilizer	4	196,4	300.1
Raw hides		4.9	11.3
Tanning materials		6 . 9	6.5
Sheep's wool		10.1	13.3
Cotton and by-products		43.8	49.5
Flax and by-products		4.6	3.0
Jute and by-products		. 7.3	7.4
Rubber and rubber substitutes	/	2.6	7.5
Props		\	74.4
Cellulose		9.8	32.2
Coramic products		2.8	5.2
			15.0
Steel and iron			
Machines, tools and electrical		17.5	20.2
engineering equipment		29.3	10.5
Locomotives and tenders		11.2	0.4
Railroad cars		6.0	2.4
Tractors		7.2	18.3
Automobiles		1.46	ره سد
		*	
Exports			
Potato flour, malt, berries and	466	X .	
vegetable food products		2.1	85.8
Fresh, frozen, and salted fish		0.3	9.9
Bacon			8.9
Legs		1.6	10.0
Sum		65.3	106.9
		246.7	8.505
Cement		17.2	46.6
Teble salt	·	11,043.3	16.047.7
Coal		11,043.3	2,821.1
Lignite		964.4	1,040.0
Coke		5.4	7.0
Benzene	•	9.3	13.8
Soda		0.1	1.3
Woolen and semiwoolen fabrics		3.8	7.8
Cotton fabrics		1.8	0.8
Linen fabrics		1.0	14.9
Timber			15.0
Paper and paper products	1	0.7	27.7
Glass and glass products		12.6	44.3
Steel and iron		8.8	
Railroad rails		2.0	30.1
Cast iron and cast pipes		0.6	13.7
Steel and iron pipes		9.8	13.0
Machines, tools, and electrical		2.6	L /
engineering equipment		0.6	4.6
Transport equipment		2.0	7.1

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The structure of Poland's foreign trade was slightly modified in 1948. Although coal constituted the greater part of export value (64 - 67 percent) in 1946, even with a general increase of the amount of coal exported, its percentage value fell to about 50 percent. During the same period, postwar Poland resumed its normal prewar export of agricultural products. In 1947, Poland had to import a considerable amount of grain, meat, and other food tuffs. The growth of agricultural production in 1948 made it possible to decrease import of these products, whose value in 1946 and 1947 was 39.2 percent and 29.2 percent, respectively. This growth even made it possible for Poland to enter the market (in the second half of the year) as an exporter of grain, bacon, poultry, eggs, and other agricultural products, which in 1948, constituted about 15 percent of all Polish exports. By decreasing imports of foodstuffs, Poland was able to increase imports of raw materials, nonferrous metals, machines, and other products necessary to satisfy the growing demands of industry. In accordance with the treaties concluded with Sweden, Czechoslovakia, England, Holland, and other countries. Peland has placed orders for industrial equipment with these countries. Peland has placed orders for industrial equipment with these countries. (Pased on data from: Wiedemosci Statystyczne, Ho 21, 5 November 1948; Dziennik Indowy, 12 January 1949; Rzeczpospolita i Dziennik Cospedarczy, 1 - 2 January 1949).

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